How to Contact Us

Our Lady of the Black Hills Parish Church
12365 Sturgis Road, Piedmont, SD 57769
Telephone: (605) 787-5168
Fax: (605) 787-4106
Website: www.olbh.org
Email: olbh@olbh.org
Office Hours: Monday-Friday,
9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Our Staff

Pastor: Fr. Mark McCormick (mark.mccormick@olbh.org)
Deacons: Walt Wilson and John Osnes
Coordinator of Gatherings of Grace: Teresa Thompson (teresa.thompson@olbh.org)
Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministry: Teresa Thompson (teresa.thompson@olbh.org)
Coordinator of Liturgy: Lorraine Rieth-Ptacek (lorraine.ptacek@olbh.org)
Office Manager: Betsy Van Asma (betsy.vanasma@olbh.org)
Bookkeeper: Lorinda Collings (lorinda.collings@olbh.org)
Coordinator of Maintenance: Jim Wranek (jim.wranek@olbh.org)

Liturgy and Prayer

Sunday Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 pm; Sunday, 9:00 am and 6:00 pm
Daily Liturgy: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 8:00 am
Morning Prayer: Following Daily Liturgy
Eucharistic Adoration and Reconciliation: Wednesday, 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 3:30 to 4:30 pm
Taize Prayer: First Sunday, 7:30 pm

Gatherings of Grace

Our parish has an intergenerational model of faith formation called Gatherings of Grace. All generations meet together the second Wednesday of each month, September through May.

Bulletin Announcements

Please email to bulletin@olbh.org by Tuesday noon for the following Sunday bulletin.

Sparks from Father Mark

Advent season was the last season for the Renew program. This coming fall the Diocese is planning to bring in "Why Catholic," a four year adult faith formation process that is generating a lot of energy and discussion around the beliefs and practices of our Catholic faith tradition. As a parish community, we will begin Why Catholic next fall. Similar to Renew, Why Catholic is based on a small group method. You do not have to have participated in Renew to be part of the Why Catholic program. You will be hearing more about Why Catholic this summer.

In the meantime some renew groups and others have expressed interest in doing something during Lent. Our plan is to use the process of Lectio Divina using the Lumko Method for the six weeks of lent using one of the scriptures readings from the Sunday Liturgy. Again the method is small group format consisting of about 8 people. I know some renew groups would like to stay together and others do not. There will be a sign up sheet in the gathering area if you want to be part of a small group for lent. Here is a brief explanation of the Lumko method of reading scripture:

> The method presented here was developed for neighborhood gospel groups by the Lumko Institute. From there, it has spread into many African countries and has been well-received in other countries as well.
>
> It deals with a method of communal, prayerful approach to the Sacred Scripture which may help us to encounter God and one another and to help us open our eyes to the presence and to the working of God in our everyday life. The Bible contains, is and imparts the Word of God. It is a book which concerns us personally and likewise can make us concerned. This method provides the opportunity for: allowing the Bible to speak to oneself first and, out of this perplexity, to share with one another (rather than just "talk about" the Bible).
>
> On the other hand, the Bible is a book which renders the faith experiences and faith testimonies of peoples from different times and cultures. We are standing in the living tradition of the People of God who has heard the Word of God since Abraham and lived because of it. The Bible is therefore at times a strange and disturbing book. Hence, the meditative prayerful approach directed towards life is not the only one; rather it should be supplemented by biblical study.
>
> Bible discussion and Bible meditation groups should not be too large. The ideal size is four to eight participants so that everyone may have the opportunity to talk. An atmosphere of quiet and calm is necessary. Just as important is an attitude of openness, of reciprocal listening in addition to the readiness to talk about oneself, that is, one´s life and one´s faith. The function of the facilitator consists only of this - that he announces the individual steps of the method.

Lumko Institute; E-mail: lumko@global.co.za

In next week's Sparks, I will go into more detail about this seven-step method of reading and being formed and shaped by the Word.

Fr. Mark

This Week at Our Lady of the Black Hills

Monday, February 16
Genesis 4:1-15, 25; Psalms 50:1 and 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mark 8:11-13 (green)
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
(Intention: Jim Wranek)
8:30 – 10:30 am: Staff Meeting
6:30 pm: Cub Scouts
7:00 pm: Pastoral Council

Tuesday, February 17
The Seven Founders of the Order of the Servites, religious
Genesis 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Psalms 29:1a and 2, 3ac-4, 3b and 9c-10; Mark 8:14-21 (green/white)
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
(Intention: For Joni Osnes)
7:00 pm: Boy Scouts
7:00 pm: Returning Catholics

Wednesday, February 18
Genesis 8:6-13, 20-22; Psalms 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19; Mark 8:22-28 (green)
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
(Intention: Healing for those who have been affected by sexual abuse)
9:00 am – Noon: Food Pantry
6:00 pm: Adoration and Reconciliation

Thursday, February 19
Genesis 9:1-13; Psalms 102:16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23; Mark 8:27-33 (green)
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy
(Intention: For the repose of Duke Deisch)
10:30 – 11:30 am: Staff Holy Hour
12:30 pm: Women's Group Lunch at Java Connection

Friday, February 20
Genesis 11:1-9; Psalms 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15; Mark 8:34-9:1 (green)
No Daily Liturgy
6:30 pm: Cub Scouts Blue & Gold Banquet

I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Psalm 32

Saturday Morning, February 21
St. Peter Damian, bishop and doctor of the Church; BVM
Hebrews 11:1-7; Psalms 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11; Mark 9:2-13 (green/white/white)
8:00 am: Daily Liturgy (Intention: For Joe Creek)
9:00 am - Noon: Food Pantry

Saturday Evening, February 21
Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
Isaiah 43:18-19, 2122, 24b-25; Psalms 41:2-3, 4-5, 13-14; 2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Mark 2:1-12 (green)
3:30 – 4:30 pm: Sacrament of Reconciliation
5:00 pm: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: For the Repose of Amy Munoz)

Sunday, February 22
Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
Isaiah 43:18-19, 2122, 24b-25; Psalms 41:2-3, 4-5, 13-14; 2 Corinthians 1:18-22; Mark 2:1-12 (green)
9:00 am: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: For Our OLBH Community)
10:00 am: Coffee Hour hosted by Ken and Kathy Van Asma
6:00 pm: Sunday Liturgy (Intention: Fr. Ed Vanorny)
7:00 pm: Life Teen/Edge
7:00 pm: Confirmation Class

Intercessory Prayers
Life and Health Concerns: Kent Antonsen, Joe Creek, Alice Donley, Barbara Hatch, Don Higgins, Marvin Kari, Morris Kosters, Betty Kirker, Michelle McCarrick, Ali Nowatny, Joni Osnes, George Senn, Don Snyder, Gordon Stark and Jim Wranek,
Repose: Amy Munoz, Dorothy Norman, Josephine Rodgers

Collection Report
February 7 & 8, 2009

Loose	$ 7,727.95
Envelopes	1,471.45
Votive	1.00
Student	45.16
Adopt a Seminarian	260.00
Other	165.00
Total	**$ 9,670.56**

Mass Ministry Schedule

2/21 – 2/22	Sat. 5:00 pm	Sun. 9:00 am	Sun. 6:00 pm
Bread Baker	Betsy Van Asma	**Coffee Hour:** Kathy & Ken Van Asma	
Altar Servers	Jessica Schacher Kimberly Schacher Taylor Thies	Kaleah Evans Austin Evans M. Didriksen	K. Chamberlin Olivia Lyle Max Lyle
Precious Body	Jerry Silbernagel	Mary Antonsen	B. Czmowski
Precious Blood	Beth-Anne Ferley Betsy Van Asma Linda Schacher Joe Schacher	Jean Schubauer Kathy Amiotte Diane Clarke Dean Antonsen	Nancy Sass Greg Sass Cathy Wang John Wang
Lectors	Dennis Olson Judy Olson	Tony Berendse Kathy Van Asma	Judy Wilson Greg Sass
Sacristans	Erik & Estela Haakedahl	Barb & Gary Erickson	The Blauvelt Family
Ushers	Bernard Wiehl Loretta Wiehl	Jim Hoag K. Rohrbach	Robert Dyczek A. Denekamp
Choir	OLBH Choir	Regina's Minstrels	OLBH Band

For the Ride Home

by Ted Bergh

Scriptures

- The one who bears the sore of leprosy shall keep his garments rent and his head bare, and shall muffle his beard (Leviticus 13:45)
- Blessed the man to whom the LORD imputes not guilt, in whose spirit there is no guile. (Psalm 32:2)
- Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ. (1 Corinthians 11:1)
- A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean." (Mark 1:40)

Reflection

- Does anyone "bear the sore of leprosy," who is unable of being cleansed?
- Who is free from guile (duplicity)?
- How is the leper transformed? How did he know that Jesus could make him clean?

Again, that expression, *le point vierge,* (I cannot translate it) comes in here. At the center of our being is a point of nothingness which is untouched by sin and by illusion, a point of pure truth, a point or spark which belongs entirely to *God,* which is never at our disposal, from which God disposes of our lives, which is inaccessible to the fantasies of our own mind or the brutalities of our own will. This little point of nothingness and of *absolute poverty* is the pure glory of God in us. It is so to speak His name written in us, as our poverty, as our indigence, as our dependence, as our sonship. It is like a pure diamond, blazing with the invisible light of heaven. It is in everybody, and if we could see it we would see these billions of points of light coming together in the face and blaze of a sun that would make all the darkness and cruelty of life vanish completely. . . . I have no program for this seeing. It is only given. But the gate of heaven is everywhere.[1]

[1] Merton, Thomas, *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander,* Image Books: New York, 1966, p. 158.

From the Pro-Life Commission

"As President of the Bishops' Conference, I assure you of our prayers, hopes and commitment to make this period of national change a time to advance the common good and defend the life and dignity of all, especially the vulnerable and poor. … Most fundamentally, we will work to protect the lives of the most vulnerable and voiceless members of the human family, especially unborn children and those who are disabled or terminally ill. We will consistently defend the fundamental right to life from conception to natural death. Opposed to abortion as the direct killing of innocent human life, we will encourage one and all to seek common ground that will reduce the number of abortions in morally sound ways that affirm the dignity of pregnant women and their unborn children. We will oppose legislative and other measures to expand abortion. We will work to retain essential, widely supported policies which show respect for unborn life, protect the conscience rights of health care providers and other Americans, and prevent government funding and promotion of abortion. The Hyde amendment and other provisions which for many years have prevented federal funding of abortion have a proven record of reducing abortions. Efforts to force Americans to fund abortions with their tax dollars would pose a serious moral challenge and jeopardize the passage of essential health care reform."

Statement of USCCB President Cardinal Francis George in Jan. 13, 2009 letter to President-Elect Barack Obama. www.usccb.org (use search option)

JustFAITH News

by Cathy Larsen

Seven parishioners from Our Lady of the Black Hills and two from St. Isaac Jogues have been gathering together on Tuesday nights since Dec. 2, 2008, to gain a better understanding and awareness of Catholic social teaching. We have been reading from four different books so far, there are more to come. And we have watched several videos as well. We pray together, discuss the readings and videos, and share our reflections, questions, and experiences. We have experienced a number of emotions when taking a closer look at issues like poverty, hunger, racism, and we are seeing the injustices in our neighborhoods and our world.

Part of the process asks us to do four "border-crossing" experiences in the 30 weeks. We have attended one so far. It was a poverty simulation exercise sponsored by the city of Rapid City. We were each given a scenario of a family, their (limited) income, expenses, and other obstacles. For example, I was unemployed and had run out of unemployment compensation. My "spouse's" income was simply not enough to cover the bills. We had two children, bills to pay, mortgage due, and we were given time restraints, transportation restraints, and so on. The people who played the roles of banker, DSS, and other resources were not very "user friendly." We were at the end of our rope. We even got evicted from our home and were homeless one night. The children in the scenarios were real children, which nicely added to the stress and chaos we were feeling. Probably the biggest thing I learned from this experience was how, when you are in poverty, it takes up all of your time, energy, and ability to deal with all of the financial problems. Our "children" we found, were quite neglected. We found ourselves saying over and over, "Not now. I don't have time. You'll just have to wait." That made a real impact on me and made me become less judgmental of parents.

We also have had one guest speaker so far (4 for the year are expected.) We asked Vicki Linn, who is a director at the Cornerstone Mission to speak to us about poverty. She was excellent, and helped us to see a truer picture of poverty and some of the causes. We are only on week 8 of our journey, but it has been a rewarding journey so far. I'm looking forward to the coming weeks and all of the things we will learn along the way.

"Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life . . ."

-- Nelson Mandela

OLBH Parish News

Life Teen & Edge

Sunday following the 6:00 pm Mass; All Middle & High School Youth welcome!

This weekend, the high school students in Life Teen are introduced to the seven sacraments of the Church. This night will help teens understand why Christ gave us the sacraments and why they are vital to the Christian life. Finally, this night will clarify some of the common misconceptions about the sacraments.

For Edge, this session is to introduce the middle school youth to the concept of heaven as complete joy and communion with God; and to present the salvation of others as the goal of our evangelistic efforts.

Gatherings of Grace

Families with children don't forget to water your bulb! Have you noticed a change in the bulb? Have you noticed a change in your prayer life? Keep at it. Prayer is best learned by practicing it, not by reading about it!

Women's Group

The women's group will be meeting at Java Connection for lunch on Thursday, February 19th at 12:30 pm. Please RSVP to Patty Cariveau at 718-5882. If you have questions, please also call Patty.

Palms

We will take donations of your last year palms. We will burn them for use on Ash Wednesday. A basket is set up in the gathering area for the palms.

Mardi Gras Breakfast

Tuesday, February 24 from 6:00-9:00 am OLBH is having our annual Mardi Gras breakfast with all the good stuff. What a great way to start to prepare for Ash Wednesday. Free Lipitor.*

*Lipitor is not really provided.

Children's Books for Lent and Easter

Books for children about Lent and Easter can be ordered through the Catholic Family Book Club. Mini catalogs which describe the books and prices are available in the library or on the counter in the narthex. Mary Coffin will be sending in the order on Tuesday, Feb 17. If 50 books are purchased, the OLBH Library will get a free one. Books are reasonably priced.

Go and Make Disciples—You Mean Me?

A Lenten Retreat sponsored by OLBH to be held at OLBH on Friday, March 6, 2009, 7:00-9:00 pm and Saturday, March 7, 2009, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Deacon Gordon and Alma Richard will direct the retreat.

Returning Catholics – Final Session

This Tuesday was the 5th session of the Returning Catholics Ministry. Father Mark was our guest speaker on Confession/Reconciliation. Father Mark did such a great job that he took all the fear out of going to confession. We can't thank you enough Father Mark for all your help calming those fears. Next Tues. Feb. 17th will be our last session. This session will be on The Nicene Creed with Cindy Thompson as our guest speaker. It should be as interesting as all the other previous sessions. Due to not getting the article in on time you missed my update on Session 4. Deacon John Osnes was our Guest Speaker on the Mass Today. Deacon John did a wonderful job and we thank him very much for taking the time out of his busy schedule. We will be repeating this Ministry after Easter. Look for upcoming dates in the near future. This will be an on going ministry that we will be opening up to the Diocese. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Greg Sass at 348-2213 or Our Lady of the Black Hills at 787-5168.

Friday Fish Fry Returns

Every Friday evening during Lent . . . more info next week.

Art Contest

The Stewardship Committee is sponsoring an art contest for the High Tea. Everyone is invited to submit art work suitable for printing on the High Tea invitations. The art work should be submitted on 8 1/2" x 11" white paper. Entries are to be sent to the church office by March 20, 2009.

Seven Founders of the Order of Servites

Can you imagine seven prominent men of Denver banding together, leaving their homes and professions, and going into solitude for a life directly given to God? That is what happened in the city of Florence in the middle of the 13th century. The city was torn with political strife. Morals were low and religion seemed meaningless. In 1240 seven noblemen of Florence mutually decided to withdraw from the city to a solitary place for prayer and direct service of God. Their initial difficulty was providing for their dependents, since two were still married and two were widowers. Their aim was to lead a life of penance and prayer, but they soon found themselves disturbed by constant visitors from Florence. They next withdrew to the deserted slopes of Monte Senario. In 1244, under the direction of St. Peter of Verona, O.P., this small group adopted a religious habit similar to the Dominican habit, choosing to live under the Rule of St. Augustine and adopting the name of the Servants of Mary. Members of the community came to the United States from Austria in 1852 and settled in New York and later in Philadelphia. The two American provinces developed from the foundation made by Father Austin Morini in 1870 in Wisconsin. Community members combined monastic life and active ministry. In the monastery, they led a life of prayer, work and silence while in the active apostolate they engaged in parochial work, teaching, preaching and other ministerial activities.

Diocesan News

Big Sale

St. Martin Monastery is having a big antique, Household, Book and Yarn SALE on February 28th from 9 AM to 4 PM. This sale has items not offered in our recent sales. Included are beds, retro furniture, and some sets of matching furniture as well as table settings and much more. Phone (605) 343-8011

2009 Ash Wednesday Appeal

Our ministry at Catholic Social Services is focused on strengthening and healing families in our diocese. CSS professional staff offers a variety of prevention/ educational workshops, youth prevention programs, parenting classes and marital/family counseling services. Office locations are in Eagle Butte, Mission, Pine Ridge, Rapid City, Spearfish and Sturgis. Your generous giving allows us to continue this valuable work to people in need, regardless of their ability to pay. Together, we can change lives.

Open House for Fr. Scherer's 90th Birthday

All are invited to the open house, which will be held from 2:00–5:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 15, at the Cathedral rectory. The rectory is located at 520 Cathedral Dr., Rapid City. He requests no gifts, please. Cards may be sent to him at: 24738 Retreat Dr., Hermosa, SD 57744.

4th Degree Knights of Columbus Meeting

The 4th Degree Knights of Columbus meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be held on February 24 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Therese the Little Flower Church in Rapid City.

Common Sense Parenting Class

Thursday, February 26, will be the first meeting for a new *Common Sense Parenting* six week class. The course offers parents practical ideas and techniques for raising happy, well-adjusted children. It focuses on the parent/child relationship and stresses the important role parents play as guides to their children. The classes will meet at the St Francis of Assisi Church, 1049 Howard St, Sturgis from 5:30-7:30 PM. For more information, or to register, call 1-800-727-2401 or 348-6086. To inquire via email send questions to: css@rapidnet.com.

Rapid City Catholic School System

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Preschool-Elementary-Middle School/St. Thomas More High School New Catholic Family Registration for the 2009-10 School Year PRESCHOOL – 12TH GRADE will be on February 24, 2009 from 5:00-6:300 p.m. at St. Elizabeth Seton Office, 431 Oakland St, Rapid City, SD 57701. For more information, contact: Marcia Werner at (605) 343-8484 or (605) 348-1477

"Developing Personal and Academic Excellence in the Catholic Tradition."

Buletín Noticiero *Entre Amigos*

Provee Prespectiva Hispana

Entre Amigos es un buletín mensual que mira las noticias y eventos de la iglesia en un prespectiva hispana. Se envía en español e inglés cada día 15 del mes. Para recibir esta columna gratuita, mande un correo electrónico a mmuñoz-visoso@usccb.org. y pida que lo pongan en la lista de distribución de *Entre Amigos*. Buletines enviados recientemente también pueden ser pedidos. *Entre Amigos* es un proyecto de la Alianza Hispana para Vida y Familia y es ofrecida por la Oficina de Relaciones de Medios de la Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de los E.E.U.U.

Faith Formation for Young Adults

Diocese of Rapid City Ministry Formation Program

8-week Pilot Programs launched from the current lay ministry formation program: one in Rapid City and one in the Northern Hills area. Sessions will begin the first week of March and end the last week of April, 2009. *(Times and places will be determined by participant's locations and needs).* Participants must be in 20's, 30's, early 40's. No more than 12 people in each program. Gather together once a week for 2 hours. *(Preparation for gathering requires about 20 min. each day to read and pray with the lesson and scripture).* This is not a lecture-based class, but a facilitated gathering of faith-sharing and questioning. Address inquiries to: Pat Roe 723-0972 pat.roe@st-bh.com

Encountering Life Alone

Beginning Experience® Separated & Divorced Support Group, - Level I *"ENCOUNTERING LIFE ALONE"*. Are you recently separated or divorced? Are you struggling with the pain and loneliness? Healing can begin with the next the nine-week session separated and divorced support group. The group starts at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 12th at St. Therese the Little Flower Church in Rapid City. It is non-denominational and open to all Christian men and women who are hurting due to separation or divorce. Pre-registration is requested! Registration fee is $25.00. Need-based scholarships are available. For more information and to pre-register, call Jill at Family Life Ministries, 343-3541.

Christian Family Planning Seminar

The next Christian Family Planning Seminar will be offered by the Natural Family Planning Ministry on Saturday, February 21, 9:00 a.m. - Noon at St. John the Evangelist Church, Ft. Pierre. *This seminar is a requirement for engaged couples getting married in the Diocese of Rapid City.* Married couples, or anyone who wants to learn more about Natural Family Planning, are encouraged to attend. For more information, or to register, call Jill or Kathy at Family Life Ministries at 343-3541.

I will praise your name for ever, Lord.

Psalm 145